

1 What is claimed is:

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3 1. A method for forming an adjacent symbol codeword comprising:

4 generating a set of m bits, wherein m is an integer, of a first symbol and a set
5 of m bits of a second symbol from a first set of data during a first clock
6 phase; and

7 generating a set of n bits, wherein n is an integer, of the first symbol and a set
8 of n bits of the second symbol from a second set of data during a second
9 clock phase.

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11 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the first and second set of data is from a memory.

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13 3. The method of claim 2 wherein the memory is a Double Data Rate (DDR) memory.

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15 4. The method of claim 1 wherein both m and n are four bits and constitute a nibble.

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17 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the adjacent symbol codeword comprises an adjacent
18 formation of the first and second symbol.

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20 6. The method of claim 1 further comprising isolating a common mode error across the
21 m and n bits of the first and second symbol.

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24 7. A method for testing a memory comprising:
25 generating a plurality of check bits to append to data that is forwarded to the
26 memory;
27 generating an adjacent symbol codeword based at least in part on data received
28 from the memory;
29 decoding the adjacent symbol codeword; and
30 determining whether an error exists in the memory

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33 8. The method of claim 7 wherein decoding the adjacent symbol codeword comprises
34 generating a syndrome based at least in part on the adjacent symbol codeword.

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36 9. The method of claim 7 wherein determining whether an error exists in the memory is
37 based at least in part on the syndrome.

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39 10. The method of claim 9 wherein an error exists based on the syndrome, further
40 comprising:

41 classifying the error in the received data; and
42 correcting the error in the received data.

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44 11. The method of claim 7 wherein the memory is a Double Data Rate (DDR)
45 memory.

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47 12. The method of claim wherein the syndrome is thirty two bits based on a two hundred
48 eighty eight bit codeword.

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50 13. An apparatus for an Error Correcting Code comprising:
51 a first logic to generate a plurality of check bits based on a set of data, to append the
52 check bits to the set of data that is to be forwarded to a memory;
53 a second logic to receive a codeword from the memory and to generate a syndrome
54 based on the codeword, and to detect whether an error exists based on the syndrome;
55 a third logic to classify the error if it exists; and
56 a fourth logic to correct the error if it exists.

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58 14. The apparatus of claim 13 is incorporated within a server chipset.

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60 15. The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the memory is a Double Data Rate (DDR)
61 memory.

62 16. The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the syndrome is thirty two bits and the codeword
63 is 288 bits.

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65 17. The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the first logic is an encoder and utilizes the
66 formula:

67 $c_i = \sum d_j \times G_{ij}$ for $i=0$ to 31 and $j=0$ to 255,
68 to generate the plurality of check bits.

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71 18. The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the second logic is a decoder and the syndrome
72 is an H matrix that is generated by the formula:

73 $s_i = \sum v_j \times H_{ij}$ for $i=0$ to 31 and $j=0$ to 287,

74 to generate the syndrome.

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76 19. An apparatus to classify an error from a memory comprising:

77 a first logic to generate an H matrix syndrome; and

78 to determine whether an error exists based on the syndrome, if so, to classify an

79 error type of the error.

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81 20. The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the H matrix syndrome is generated by the
82 formula:

83 $s_i = \sum v_j \times H_{ij}$ for $i=0$ to 31 and $j=0$ to 287.

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85 21. The apparatus of claim 19 wherein to classify the error type comprises the first
86 logic to generate an error location vector.

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88 22. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the error location vector determines whether
89 the error is correctable:

90 a value of zero in the error location vector indicates the error is uncorrectable; in
91 contrast, a value that is greater than zero in an indicated column of the error location
92 vector indicates the error is correctable.

93 23. The apparatus of claim 19 wherein the error type may be either a single device
94 error or a double device error.

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96 24. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein the double device error is either of a
97 simultaneous error or a sequential error.

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99 25. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein the single device error is classified based on a
100 weight of an error value, e_0 and e_1 , and the error location vector is to gate the error
101 values.

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104 26. A system comprising:

105 a processor, coupled to a memory and a chipset, to generate an operation to
106 the memory via the chipset; and

107 the chipset to utilize an Error Correcting Code (ECC) based on an adjacent

symbol codeword that is formed in two clock phases and to determine

109 whether an error exists in a plurality of data received by the chipset from

110 the memory, if so, to classify a type of the error based on an H matrix

111 syndrome.

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117 28. The system of claim 26 wherein the H matrix syndrome is generated by the formula:

118 $s_i = \sum v_j \times H_{ij}$ for $i=0$ to 31 and $j=0$ to 287.

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121 29. The system of claim 26 wherein the system is a server.